

Subject: Weekly Newsletter: Important Cornoavirus Updates (English & Español), Census 2020, Arbor Day and More...

From: "Joe Buscaino, 15th Council District" <info@la15th.com>

Date: 3/13/20, 2:30 PM

To: sarah.washington@lacity.org

LA 15th Council District

Friend --

CORONAVIRUS: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



Coronavirus.JPG

A Message from Councilmember Joe Buscaino

Our office is continuing to operate at a normal staffing level, however, due to the Mayor's Directive on coronavirus (COVID-19), our offices are closed to the public until March 31st. As part of our efforts to mitigate the spread of this virus please call or email our office instead. Additionally, we are in the process of switching all meetings to either web or telephone conferences. Thank you for your understanding.

My staff has compiled information for homes, businesses, and events in this living document here: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1hlaNj2-gLdfq9eZJSfgfmv72Bkk2x4hlwlvjaU9Y3_Q/edit?usp=sharing

Website: LA15th.com

Staff Directory: www.la15th.com/team_buscaino

City Hall Office: 213-473-7015

Watts Office: 323-568-2083

Harbor Office: 310-732-4515

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Nuestra oficina seguirá operando normalmente, pero, de acuerdo con la directiva del Alcalde sobre el caso de coronavirus (COVID-19), nuestras oficinas estarán cerradas al público hasta el 31 de marzo. Para prevenir el riesgo de contraer el virus y hacer todo lo posible en dar la información más reciente sobre lo que la Ciudad de Los Ángeles y el Distrito 15 están haciendo para combatir esta pandemia, por favor llame a nuestra oficina o mandenos un correo electrónico. En nuestro esfuerzo de prevención, solamente tendremos juntas por teléfono o videoconferencia. Muchas gracias por su colaboración y paciencia!

Mi personal ha recopilado información del coronavirus para sus hogares, negocios y eventos en este documento: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1hlaNj2-gLdfq9eZJSfgfmv72Bkk2x4hlwlvjaU9Y3_Q/edit?usp=sharing

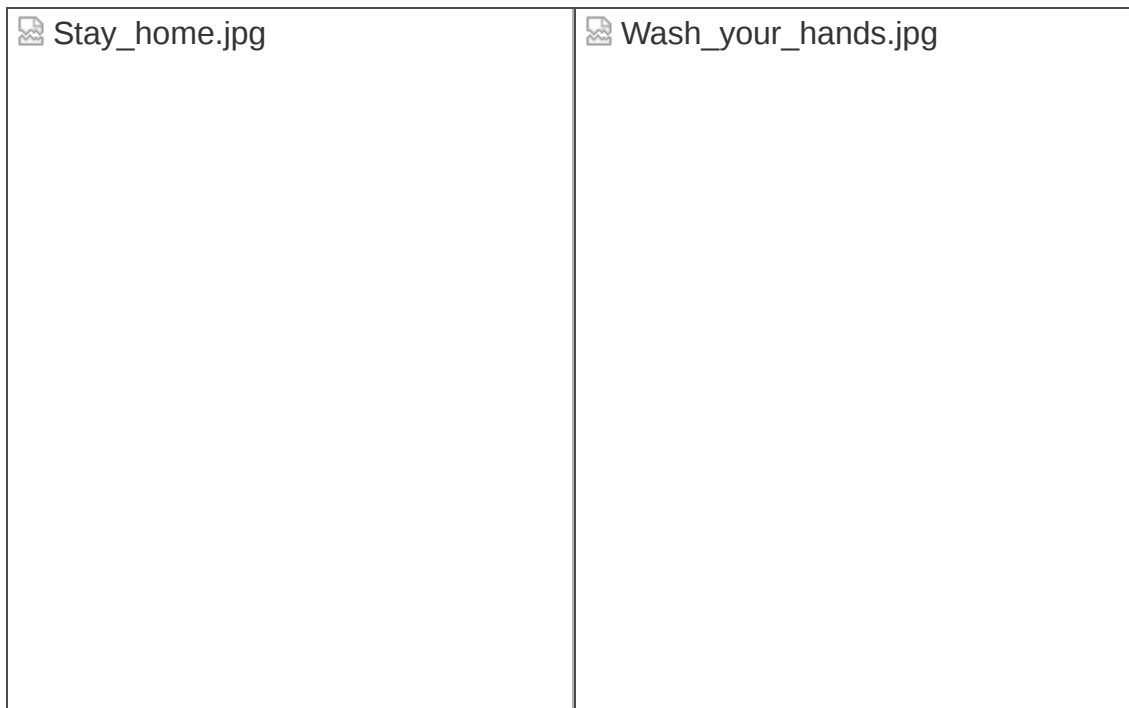
El Sitio Web: LA15th.com

Directorio de Personal: www.la15th.com/team_buscaino

Nuestra oficina localizada en el ayuntamiento: 213-473-7015

Watts y Harbor Gateway: 323-568-2083

Harbor City, Wilmington y San Pedro: 310-732-4515



Coronavirus (COVID-19)

[More Information](#) | [Más Información](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#) | [Preguntas frecuentes \(FAQ\)](#)

[What You Should Know](#) | [Lo Que Necesita Saber](#)

[How to Cope with Stress](#) | [Afrontando el Estrés Durante los Brotes de Enfermedades Contagiosas](#)

[Cleaning in Group Settings](#) | [Guía de limpieza general para enfermedades respiratorias en entornos grupales](#)

[Cleaning in the Home](#) | [Prevenir la transmisión de enfermedades respiratorias en el hogar](#)

[Employer Guidance](#) | [Guía para empleadores](#)

 notify_la.jpg

Everyone should be [signed up](#) for [NotifyLA](#). If you are not signed up, please do so right now!

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Todos deben [registrarse](#) para recibir notificaciones en [NotifyLA](#). Si todavia no se ha registrado, por favor hágalo ahora mismo!

 Coronavirus_la_public_health_2.PNG

Follow [@LAPublicHealth](#), [@NotifyLA](#) & [@ReadyLA](#) on Twitter or visit [publichealth.lacounty.gov](#) or [CDC.gov](#) for up to date information.

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Siga [@LAPublicHealth](#), [@NotifyLA](#) y [@ReadyLA](#) en Twitter o visite las siguientes paginas para obtener informacion al dia: [publichealth.lacounty.gov](#) y [CDC.gov](#).

 [School_Closures.jpg](#)

READ: LAUSD Schools to Close Starting Next Week

The public health crisis created by the coronavirus is not something any of us could reasonably have expected to happen, and we're in uncharted waters as we work to prevent the spread of the illness. We have been following the guidance of public health experts on how we can keep all who are part of our school community -- students, staff, family members and visitors -- safe in the midst of a growing health crisis. We are now at a point where the balance has shifted and the appropriate path is to close schools. We are taking this step to keep our school communities safe. Effective Monday, March 16, we will close all Los Angeles Unified public schools for two weeks while we evaluate the appropriate path forward. While our school facilities will be closed, plans are in place for students to continue to learn during this time, and we will open 40 family resource centers to provide care for children if families need it.

This is a difficult decision, but necessary, as we try to slow the spread of the virus. Los Angeles Unified serves a high-needs population, and our schools provide a social safety net for our children. The closing of any school has real consequences beyond the loss of instructional time. This is not an easy decision and not one we take lightly.

Each student will have a plan which they will take home with them today and additional support will be provided to assist students as they transition to a different way of learning and teachers to a different way of teaching.

For some students it will be continuing the lesson plan and instruction they have already been working on with their classroom teacher. For others it will be engaging with the curriculum and lessons which we and PBS SoCal will be providing. And for some, it will be a combination of the two.

While our special education centers will also close, students and families will continue to have access to services from the regional centers they currently rely on.

The Family Resource Centers will open on Wednesday, March 18 and will be staffed weekdays from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. with trained professionals. Children will be able to have a warm meal, engage with their peers and pursue their different studies. And they'll be safe.

We are developing a family resource guide that we will provide to you before Monday, to help answer your questions.

I want to thank all on our staff who are working tirelessly to help our students and planning for them to remain connected to the school community. We know the adults on a school campus are an important part of a student's life and will do our best to try and maintain that connection. All employees should rest assured knowing they will still be paid during this time, even if they are not directly involved in providing services to students.

And to our families, we thank you for your patience and trust as we work together to maintain some sense of normalcy in these difficult times. These next two weeks will be difficult and we are not certain what lies ahead after that. You have my unwavering commitment to do all we can do to help you and your children.

We will continue to do our best to keep you informed. Facts and circumstances may change quickly so we encourage you to check our website [lausd.net](https://www.lausd.net) regularly, my Twitter [@AustinLASchools](https://twitter.com/AustinLASchools) or call the following phone hotlines.

For families: (213) 443-1300

For school leaders: (213) 241-2000

For employees: (213) 241-2700

Thank you for your support.

Austin

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LEA: A la Comunidad del Distrito Unificado Escolar de Los Ángeles

La crisis de salud pública creada por el Coronavirus no es algo que ninguno de nosotros hubiera razonablemente esperado que ocurriera y estamos en terrenos desconocidos en nuestra labor de trabajar para prevenir la transmisión de la enfermedad. Hemos estado siguiendo la guía de los expertos en salud pública sobre cómo podemos mantener a todos los que son parte de nuestra comunidad escolar —estudiantes, personal, miembros de la familia y visitantes— seguros en medio de una creciente crisis de salud pública. Ahora estamos a un punto en que el balance ha cambiado y el camino adecuado a seguir consiste en cerrar las escuelas. Estamos tomando esta medida para proteger a nuestras comunidades escolares. A partir del lunes 16 de marzo, cerraremos todas las escuelas públicas del Distrito Unificado de Los Ángeles durante dos semanas mientras evaluamos el camino apropiado a seguir. Si bien, nuestras instalaciones escolares estarán cerradas, existen planes para que los estudiantes continúen aprendiendo durante este periodo y abriremos 40 Centros de Recursos Familiares para ofrecer cuidado infantil si las familias lo

necesitan.

Esta es una decisión difícil, pero necesaria ya que estamos tratando de reducir la transmisión del virus. El Distrito Unificado de Los Ángeles brinda servicios a una población con grandes necesidades y nuestras escuelas ofrecen una red social de seguridad para nuestros niños y jóvenes. El cierre de cualquier escuela tiene consecuencias reales que van más allá de la pérdida del tiempo de enseñanza. Esta no es una decisión fácil ni una que se toma a la ligera.

Cada estudiante tendrá un plan, el cual hoy se llevará a casa y se ofrecerá apoyo adicional para ayudar a los estudiantes durante la transición a una manera de aprender diferente, y a los maestros durante la transición a enseñar de manera diferente.

Para algunos estudiantes será la continuación del plan de estudios y enseñanza en el que han estado trabajando en el salón con su maestro. Para otros será la participación en un plan de estudios y lecciones que nosotros y PBS SoCal ofreceremos. Y para otros será una combinación de los dos.

Si bien, nuestros centros de educación especial también estarán cerrados, los estudiantes y familias continuarán contando con acceso a los servicios de los centros regionales de los cuales dependen en la actualidad.

Los Centros de Recursos Familiares abrirán el miércoles 18 de marzo y contarán con personal capacitado profesionalmente durante los días de la semana de 6 a.m. a 6 p.m. Los niños podrán disponer de una comida caliente, podrán interactuar con compañeros y continuar con sus distintos estudios. Y todos estarán seguros.

Estamos creando una guía de recursos familiares que les proporcionaremos antes del lunes para ayudarles a responder a sus preguntas.

Quiero agradecerle a todo nuestro personal que está trabajando incansablemente para ayudar a nuestros estudiantes y planeando para que ellos se mantengan conectados con la comunidad escolar. Sabemos que los

adultos en las escuelas son una parte importante en la vida del estudiante y haremos todo lo posible para tratar de mantener dicha conexión. Todos los empleados deben tener plena seguridad que se les pagará durante este periodo, incluso si no están directamente involucrados con la prestación de servicios a estudiantes.

Y a nuestras familias, les agradecemos su paciencia y confianza mientras trabajamos juntos para mantener cierta sensación de normalidad durante estos momentos difíciles. Estas próximas dos semanas serán difíciles y no sabemos lo que nos espera después. Ustedes tienen mi inquebrantable compromiso de que haremos todo lo posible para ayudarles a ustedes y a sus hijos.

Continuaremos haciendo todo lo posible para mantenerlos informados. Los hechos y circunstancias pueden cambiar rápidamente y por eso les invitamos a que consulten con regularidad nuestra página web: lausd.net, mi Twitter: @AustinLASchools o llamen a las siguientes líneas de información.

Para familias: (213) 443-1300.

Para líderes escolares: (213) 241-2000.

Para empleados: (213) 241-2700

Gracias por su apoyo.

Austin

A Message from LADWP: The Safety of Tap Water



Drinking_Water.jpg

LADWP continues to closely monitor information on the respiratory virus COVID-19, also known as the novel coronavirus, through updates shared by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. There have been reports of people purchasing bottled water as a precautionary measure to ensure ample drinking water supply as part of emergency preparedness.

LADWP wants to reassure our customers, the water at their tap continues to be of the highest quality and is 100 percent safe to drink. There is no threat to the public drinking water supply and no need to use bottled water. LADWP's treatment processes are specifically designed to protect the public from all viruses and harmful bacteria. The use of LADWP water in handwashing is safe as an effective means of removing germs, in combination with the use of soap and proper [handwashing measures](#).

LADWP's drinking water supply undergoes proven scientific techniques and treatments before they reach our customers' tap, including filtration, ultraviolet light, and chlorine disinfection.

We will continue to closely monitor the progression of COVID-19 and to communicate with other water industry professionals to ensure the continued

safety of our treated water supply.

For more information on COVID-19, visit CDC's [website](#), LA County's Department of Public Health's [website](#) or the City of Los Angeles [coronavirus information site](#).

[LEARN MORE](#): 2020 CALIFORNIA CENSUS IS HERE!

 census.JPG



The 2020 California census has arrived! Be informed, be involved, and be counted. Here is a [quick guide](#) to the 2020 Census. Be prepared! Please review the [checklist](#) to know what information you will need to complete the questionnaire easily.

Why should I participate in the census?

When you complete the census, you're standing up not only for yourself, but for you community

- Over \$115 billion is spent every year on California schools, healthcare, housing, transportation, and other vital programs determined by census data.
- If California doesn't have an accurate count, we could lose a seat in Congress.
- If you don't complete the census, your identity and community is invisible

to people who have the power to make major decisions affecting your life.

How do I complete the census?

- Center action kiosks (CAK) will be located across the City and in your community.
- On your own internet-ready computer, smartphone, or tablet
- Call one of the U.S. Census Bureau's Census 2020 hotlines to request or complete a questionnaire.
- Check your mailbox for a questionnaire from the U.S. Census Bureau.

When does the census happen?

- March: invitations are mailed out asking households to respond to the new online census. Reminder letters go out towards the end of the month.
- April: Reminder postcards go to households that haven't responded online. You may receive a reminder letter and paper questionnaire if you have not responded by their fourth reminder.
- May: Census takers will visit households that have not responded.


If you have more questions, please visit our [FAQ](#) page or call the U.S. Census Bureau at (213) 314-6502


WATCH: ARBOR DAY 2020 IN WILMINGTON

 [arbor_day_2.PNG](#)

Hundreds of volunteers from across the city were in [Wilmington](#) Saturday to plant trees at [The Banning Museum](#) and throughout the community. In total over 1,000 trees were planted for Arbor Day 2020! [WATCH...](#)

[MORE INFO:](#) FREE SANDBAGS FROM THE LOS ANGELES FIRE DEPARTMENT

 sand_bags.jpg



To help City of Los Angeles residents [prepare for rainstorm needs](#), the [Los Angeles Fire Department](#) provides free ready-to-fill sandbags at [every Neighborhood Fire Station](#), with sand* also available for free at sites listed below.

** Sand may be desirable, but local soil can also be used to effectively fill sandbags.*

While LAFD is pleased to provide sand - and up to 25 free sandbags per household, the Department is not able to fill, deliver, install or remove sandbags.

Those who may require additional sand, sandbags and supplies may wish to contact a local home improvement store or building supply center, many of

which will deliver [flood preparedness and debris control aids](#) directly to where they are needed.

The following locations in the City of Los Angeles now offer free **sand** (sandbags are available at [all fire stations](#)):

- **Harbor City** - Harbor City Recreation Center, 24801 Frampton Avenue
- **Harbor City** - Normandie Recreation Center, 22400 South Normandie Avenue (corner parking lot 225th Street and Halldale Avenue)
- **San Pedro** - Peck Park, 560 North Western Avenue (east of the Recreation Center)
- **South Los Angeles** - Fire Station 21, 1192 East 51st Street
- **South Los Angeles** - Fire Station 64, 10811 South Main Street
- **Wilmington** - Banning Park, 1331 Eubank Street (in the parking lot near PCH)

[APPLY TODAY:](#) SERVE ON THE METRO SOUTH BAY CITIES SERVICE COUNCIL

 Bus.jpg

Are you an avid user of public transit? Do you feel called to public service? The

South Bay Cities Council of Governments (COG) is seeking applicants to nominate to serve during the July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2023 term on the [Metro South Bay Cities Service Council](#). The COG serves as the nominating authority for the South Bay Cities Service Council.

[Metro's Service Councils](#) are responsible for:

- contributing to the conceptual planning of bus transit route service changes within their area; reviewing all proposed major bus service changes
- calling and conducting public hearings for all major bus service changes within their area
- providing locally accessible public forums (monthly meetings, public hearings) for transit users and other interested parties in to voice concerns, suggestions, questions and input on how Metro can best serve its customers
- facilitating partnerships with municipal and local transit service providers that promote a shared vision to improve service integration and coordination, resulting in more efficient service and better use of resources

To be eligible to serve, applicants must:


- live and/or work in the [South Bay Cities service area](#)
- use transit multiple times each month
- be able to attend one Council meeting each month, and a limited number of special meetings as needed. Meetings are usually held the 2nd Friday of each month at 10:30 a.m. at Lennox Library in Lennox and have a duration of approximately 2 hours
- Not be an employee of or consultant for Metro

Council Members receive a \$100 stipend per meeting (up to two meetings per month) and a Metro badge good for unlimited use of the Metro Bus and Rail system.

For more information, contact David Leger at 310-371-7222 or davidl@southbaycities.org. To apply, submit a short biography and explanation as to why you should be selected by Friday, March 20, 2020 at 5

p.m. to jacki@southbaycities.org.

THIS WEEK IN THE COMMUNITY

 This_Week_in_the_Community.png

1. Team Buscaino participated in the United Way of Greater Los Angeles' Read Across America Day in honor of Dr. Seuss' birthday. Over 3,000 Wilmington area students had the opportunity to learn about the importance of reading in a fun and meaningful way, and go home with the book that they were read in the classroom to share with their families at home.
2. Mudtown Farms is making amazing progress in Watts! The Watts Labor Community Action Committee (WLCAC) is leading the project which will be an agriculture park with open space for community gardens, orchards, exercise pathways, reading gardens, and more. The park will also include a community center for teaching, training, and events.
3. Jasmin Mena, President of the Keystone Club and "Youth of the Year" for the Boys and Girls Club of LA Harbor is competing in the first-round judging of the [LA Alliance of Youth of the Year](#) competition. Good luck Jasmin!
4. Councilmember Buscaino's City Hall interns, Michael and Quincy, completed a field day in Watts which included submitting 20+ MyLA311 service requests for illegal dumping. The interns are participating in a project to drive all the alleys in Watts as a part of a mapping effort to better catalog and track alley related issues.
5. Ross is open at [Freedom Plaza](#) in Watts!
6. Heal to Grow: Sharing Survivor Stories at The Garden Church in Downtown San Pedro. This public awareness event about domestic violence was put on by Rudy Caseres, community activist and motivational speaker, [Rainbow Services](#) and [Trauma Informed LA](#).
7. Team Buscaino joined students at Dodson Middle School for International Women's Day.
8. Sonia Espinoza, Regional Director for the Boys and Girls Club of the LA Harbor, was recognized as the Woman of the Year by the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce!
9. Team Buscaino participated in Supervisor Hahn's tour and luncheon at the new LA County homeless temporary emergency housing at 8th and Beacon in

San Pedro.

COMMUNITY EVENTS: AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE STATE

 Gov_Presser.PNG

The California Department of Public Health has determined that gatherings should be postponed or canceled across the state until at least the end of March. Non-essential gatherings must be limited to no more than 250 people, while smaller events can proceed only if the organizers can implement social distancing of 6 feet per person. Gatherings of individuals who are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 should be limited to no more than 10 people, while also following social distancing guidelines.

The [updated PDF guidance](#) is available.

The California Department of Public Health finds the following:

- Large gatherings that include 250 people or more should be postponed or canceled.
 - This includes gatherings such as concerts, conferences, and professional, college, and school sporting events.
- Smaller gatherings held in venues that do not allow social distancing of six feet per person

should be postponed or canceled.

- This includes gatherings in crowded auditoriums, rooms or other venues.
- Gatherings of individuals who are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 should be limited to no more than 10 people.
 - This includes gatherings such as those at retirement facilities, assisted living facilities, developmental homes, and support groups for people with health conditions.
- A “gathering” is any event or convening that brings together people in a single room or single space at the same time, such as an auditorium, stadium, arena, large conference room, meeting hall, cafeteria, or any other indoor or outdoor space.


This applies to all non-essential professional, social, and community gatherings regardless of their sponsor. Gatherings that do not meet the aforementioned criteria should only be conducted when they are essential—that is, if the activity is essential and could not be postponed or achieved without gathering, meaning that some other means of communication could not be used to conduct the essential function.

What is social distancing?

Social distancing is a practice recommended by public health officials to stop or slow down the spread of contagious diseases. It requires the creation of physical space between individuals who may spread certain infectious diseases. The key is to minimize the number of gatherings as much as possible and to achieve space between individuals when events or activities cannot be modified, postponed, or canceled. Although the Department of Public Health expects most events with more than 250 attendees to be postponed or canceled, we emphasize that the venue space does matter. Achieving space between individuals of approximately six feet is advisable. Additionally, there is a particular focus on creating space between individuals who have come together on a one-time or rare basis and who have very different travel patterns such as

those coming from multiple countries, states or counties.

PHOTO OF THE WEEK

 Photo_of_the_week.jpg

Visiting the World War II memorial in Washington DC during a week of advocating for a better relationship between municipalities and the federal government as president of National League of Cities. Thank you to all of our elected officials from across the United States who participated this week in building better communities across our nation. Thank you to all those who sacrificed their lives to create a more perfect union. In this time of a national emergency, may all of us have the capacity to endure difficult times as they did.

Joe Buscaino, 15th Council District

<http://www.la15th.com/>

LA 15th Council District · United States

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